

1. **Level-of-service A** describes primarily free flow operations at average travel speeds, usually about 90 percent of the free flow speed for the arterial class. Vehicles are completely unimpeded in their ability to maneuver within the traffic stream. Stopped delay at signalized intersections is minimal.
2. **Level-of-service B** represents reasonable unimpeded operations at average travel speeds, usually about 70 percent of the free flow speed for the arterial class. The ability to maneuver within the traffic stream is only slightly restricted and stopped delays are not bothersome. Drivers are not generally subjected to appreciable tension.
3. **Level-of-service C** represents stable operations. However, ability to maneuver and change lanes in midblock locations may be more restricted than in LOS B, and longer queues and/or adverse signal coordinations may contribute to lower average travel speeds of about 50 percent of the average free flow speed for the arterial class. Motorists will experience an appreciable tension while driving.
4. **Level-of-service D** borders on a range on which small increases in flow may cause substantial increases in approach delay and, hence, decreases in arterial speed. They may be due to adverse signal progression, inappropriate signal timing, high volumes, or some combination of these. Average travel speeds are about 40 percent of free flow speed.
5. **Level-of-service E** is characterized by significant approach delays and average travel speeds of one-third the free flow speed or lower. Such operations are caused by some combination of adverse progression, high signal density, extensive queuing at critical intersections, and inappropriate signal timing.
6. **Level-of-service F** characterizes arterial flow at extremely low speeds below one-third to one-quarter of the free flow speed. Intersection congestion is likely at critical signalized locations, with high approach delays resulting. Adverse progression is frequently a contributor to this condition.

The recommended improvements and overall design of the Thoroughfare Plan were based on achieving a minimum of LOS D on existing facilities, and LOS C on new facilities. LOS D is considered the "**practical capacity**" of a facility, or that at which the public begins to express dissatisfaction.